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**World Mission Sunday, 2020**  
Society for the Propagation of the Faith



## **110th Anniversary of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia**

### **Homily Helps**

#### **Reflections on the readings for the Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**October 18, 2020:** IS 45:1,4-6; PS 96:1,3,4-5,7-8,9-10; 1 THES 1:1-5; MT 22:15-21

#### **Committed to sharing the words and works of Jesus with people everywhere**

On this World Mission Sunday, we join with brothers and sisters around the globe in celebrating the Church's responsibility of sharing Christ's message of redemption and eternal life. Since Jesus sent His Apostles and other disciples out to preach His word, every generation has generously answered this holy call. Today, priests, consecrated women and men, and lay people continue to reach out to those who do not know or believe in Jesus our Savior. For those of us who remain at home, we can contribute to our Father's plan through prayer and the example we offer in our own community.

In today's readings for both the Old and New Testaments, we see God's love for His children and His desire for them to embrace His truth. He expects those who have faith to communicate it to others. "I have called you by your name . . . so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides Me. I am the Lord, there is no other." Isaiah 45: 4, 6 Our relationship with God must be the most important part of our lives - it must actually define our way of thinking, speaking and behaving. And if the sacrifice of God's Son means everything to our souls, our whole being, then others need to have the opportunity to understand and accept His mercy as well.

These past months dealing with a pandemic have been long and difficult for great numbers of people. Family, friends, colleagues, neighbors and we ourselves have suffered physically, mentally and spiritually. We have seen the problems of those around us and heard horrific news about others in many lands. We can ease the burdens of others through prayer and personal sacrifice. We can make a real difference to the welfare of the bodies and souls of those helped by the Church's Missions.

*"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all you lands. Tell His glory among the nations; among all peoples, His wondrous deeds"* Psalm 96: 1, 3

